

**Metro Richmond
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**

107 South 5th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
September 24, 2012
5:00 PM

Draft Minutes

Committee members present: Amanda Simons, Chair, Arthur Peoples, and Gina Koke.

Committee members absent: Hazel Vaughn

Staff support: Carrie Flowers (Advocate, DBHDS Office of Human Rights), Laura Nguyen (RBHA),

Providers Present: RBHA

Providers Absent: None

Others Present: Ron Lucas LPC, Director of the START Program for Region IV -Richmond and Surrounding Areas

I. Welcome/Call to Order/Introductions:

Amanda Simons, Chair of the Metro Richmond LHRC called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Introductions of all LHRC members present and Mr. Lucas took place prior to the call to order. Amanda Simons announced that the LHRC was holding a special meeting at 5pm this evening in order to hear a presentation on the START Program and to consider the request for affiliation of the new services with the Metro Richmond LHRC under RBHA's Affiliation.

II. Presentation:

Ron Lucas, Director of START gave an informative overview of the National Program and Regional initiative stating that the General Assemble had provided monies for five Regional Programs to be developed across Virginia.

“START is a national initiative that strengthens efficiencies and person centered service outcomes for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability, and co-occurring behavioral health needs in the community.

This presentation has been developed in collaboration with the Center for START Services, a program of the Institute on Disability/UCED at the University Of New Hampshire.

www.centerforstartservices.com

START, founded by Dr. Joan Beasley, has been providing service supports, clinical, emergency and respite services since 1989.

In the summer of 2011, DBHDS contracted with Dr. Beasley to develop Virginia START”

- Each region has adapted the basic START model to meet the needs of its individuals 18+ with ID or DD
- It's all about the Assessments
- START emphasizes crisis PREVENTION through early identification of individuals at high risk, involvement in development of crisis response plans, training and technical assistance.
- When fully operational, all START programs will be able to respond by phone 24/7 and face to face within 3 hours whenever possible

■ Presently the Region IV Richmond Program is providing Consultation services and identifying individuals in the Region who may be served. A home has been purchased on Forest Hill Avenue that will provide Therapeutic Respite services for up to six adults (three Beds identified for Crisis admissions and three Beds will allow for planned respite services. This service is on target for opening in early 2013.

■ **Region IV**

■ **Richmond Behavioral Health Authority**

■ Ron Lucas, START Director

■ 1- 855-282-1006 lucasr@rbha.org

III. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Provider's request for affiliation of the Region IV START services with the Metro Richmond LHRC

- Ms. Amanda Simons, Chair of the Metro Richmond LHRC adjourned the meeting at 6:00PM

**NEXT MEETING DATES
OCTOBER 17, 2012**

Draft Minutes submitted for your approval by Laura Nguyen